

OPPOSE WAGE CUT DECLARE UNIONISTS

Gompers and Mitchell
Speak to Employers
in New York.

Say Workingman Is Not
Responsible for Finan-
cial Panic.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has served notice upon employers that attempts to reduce wages at this time will be fought to the utmost. He delivered the ultimatum in an address at a dinner of the Civic Federation, attended by 800 persons at the Hotel Astor. John Mitchell also included in his speech a similar warning to employers.

"Since I have been in New York," said Mr. Gompers, "I have been approached a dozen times by bankers, financiers, capitalists, in open conversation, in written communications, and in whispers, to the effect that wages must come down; that the laboring man must make up his mind to bear his share of the hard times."

Why Attack Workingman?

"And I turned to those men and I asked them whether the soil of our country is less fertile, the treasures beneath the soil less valuable, men's minds less active, the laboring men less industrious? Wherefore, I asked them, is there reason or necessity to thus attack the American standard of our workingmen?"

"The history of industry demonstrates that every such reduction of wages, intended to meet such conditions as now exist, has only accentuated the situation, made matters worse. When you reduce the laboring man's earning capacity you reduce his consuming power, and thereby intensify what was already bad enough."

"So, I say to the employers—the bankers, the lawyers, the manufacturers, the mine operators, to all employers—that if they now attempt to reduce the wages they are not going to have the easy sailing they had a few years ago, for the American workingman has come to the conclusion that if for any reason the financial situation is as it is—and I shall not suggest any reason—it is not, at any rate, due to any fault of the working people. They have made up their minds that they are not going to be the chief sufferers because of an artificial panic, or of one caused by the blunders of those in charge of the finances of the country."

Worse Conditions Result.

Speaking along the same line, Mr. Mitchell said:

"Is it going to make matters any better to reduce wages? Such reports have never failed to make matters worse, instead of better."

The dinner followed a day session in the Park Avenue Hotel. Among the speakers were August Belmont, Andrew Carnegie, Gen. Frederick D. Grant; President Eliot, of Harvard; Postmaster General Meyer; former Governor Herick, of Ohio; Alfred Crozier, of Wilmington, Del., and others.

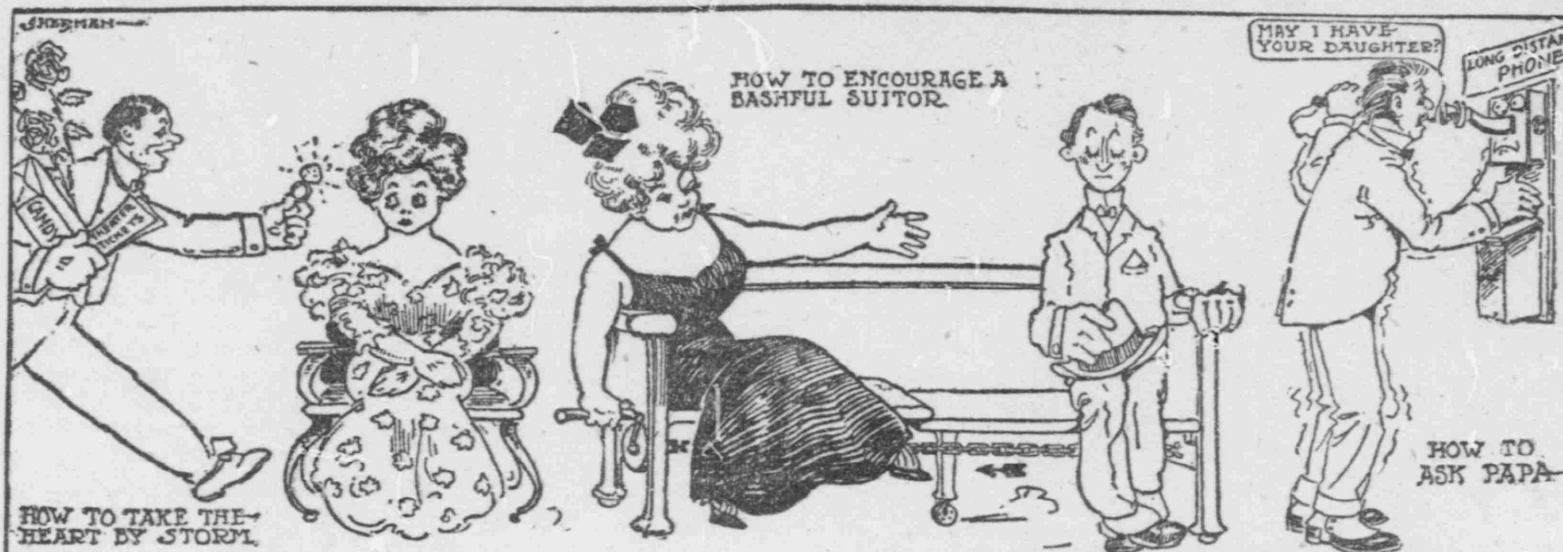
Andrew Mills, president of the Dry Dock Savings Bank, said \$1,400,000,000 was in 135 savings banks in New York State, and in the present crisis the tenement house dweller, had lent money upon the home of the millionaire.

AGED MAN REGAINS SIGHT BY SERIOUS OPERATION

TRENTON, Dec. 17.—Although eighty-two years old, George Wainwright, a nurseryman of this city, has successfully undergone an operation which restored his sight, of which he had been deprived for three years by cataracts. Doctors were fearful of the effects of an operation, but the old gentleman insisted that he would rather die than be left in his helpless condition.

The operation was performed on the right eye, and the doctors are now considering the advisability of duplicating it on the left.

SKIDOO FOR THE FESTIVE SONG OF COO AND WOO



How to take the heart by storm.

Won't you teach me how to woo? Teach me how to kiss? This and songs commencing with similar sentiments are doomed to oblivion along with Fitz and his machine. The next generation would scoff at a public rendering of a song of the "Teach Me How to Kiss" variety, for, now that the public school of Greenville, Ill., has duly inaugurated a course of wooing, ignorance will not be permitted.

Prof. H. G. Russell, superintendent of the Greenville High School, introduced the course in spite of the objection of

the parents of some of the class. He is assisted by his wife. In the class are twenty-three, ten of them being girls. They are paired off with ten boys, while the extra boys are used for demonstrations in jealousy.

Pupils will be expected to learn: How to kiss; How to take the heart by storm or siege.

How to detect the advent of the grand passion. How to behave if parental objection is manifested. (All pupils taking this branch of the course are requested to take out accident insurance.)

How to pay a compliment—and how to receipt for one.

How to encourage a bashful suitor or corner an elusive girl. (There are little aids for this branch, such as the new cupid contracting sofa guaranteed to cause propinquity. See cut.)

How to profess jealousy.

How to ask papa. (A full equipment of landing nets and first aid to the injured kits are furnished to all who are properly registered.)

The etiquette of the engagement ring. Deportment during engagement. (The

Illinois form is not supposed to find favor in the Boston schools, and vice versa.)

Girls will also learn how to promise to be a sister. And the year's course will take the students all the way from the first sweet sting of love to the altar, that is, all the first class, with the exception of the three extra boys, and it will be a case of "stung" with them.

Prof. Russell refuses to make any statement in regard to a post-graduate affinity course, but the march of time will show.

SAUSAGE ACCENT AND MAN OF EX'S, TELL OF RATES

Pacific Coast Lumber
Cases Before Com-
merce Commission.

Two witnesses, one with an accent that made a noise like a frankfurter sausage, and the other with a political past in which he took great pride, were examined before the Interstate Commerce Commission today by the defendant against them by Pacific coast lumbermen to restrain the 25 per cent increase in charges for currying lumber.

Johanna Poulson, who runs the biggest lumber mill in Portland, testified that for about six years he ran his mill night and day without cessation; that he contents himself now with running it only by day; that he is making money out of the business, and that in the last five years he has cleaned up for his corporation profits amounting to the modest sum of \$1,000,000.

Having shown that the lumber business is still doing business at the same old stand despite the increased transportation rates, the attorney for one of the railroads leaned back in his chair with an air of great satisfaction and demanded of the witness if it was not a fact that he had not been bothered by car shortage.

But Mr. Poulson came back with:

Competitor Got More Cars.

"One of my competitors shipped more cars than I did in proportion to the size of our mills. I think he stood in with the railroads better than I did. I had some trouble with them about demurrage, and so forth. I'm soured on them."

All this Mr. Poulson told in an accent that wrapped itself about the stenographer's pen like a bunch of sauerkraut, and kept him listening until his head ached. Mr. Poulson's manner was that of a very self-possessed man, with a contempt for small figures or small amounts of money.

When he spoke of making \$1,000,000 in five years, he did it with the air of one who is disposed to look on that sum as small. When he was asked if he owned any of the timber used in the lumber business, he replied:

"A little."

"How much?"

"Oh, about 300,000,000 feet," he answered, as if he had been speaking of the trees that grow on Pennsylvania avenue.

Former Governor Called.

Former Gov. David M. Clough, of Minnesota, now running a large lumber mill at Everett, Wash., was asked if he did not know that James J. Hill, the venerable railroad president, had championed him when he was in Minnesota politics. Mr. Clough replied:

"Oh, not especially, no more than a majority of the people of Minnesota. I was in politics for fifteen years, and I won every time."

"Pursuing that line of inquiry," but in one of the lumbermen's attorneys with fine sarcasm, "is it not a fact that, despite your continued success you ran 50,000 votes behind McKinley on the ticket?"

"I ran behind," conceded the former governor, "but I won. I was elected, all right."

It was a great hearing, according to those familiar with the lumber business. But the sausage accent and the political history were the only things that put any life into the affair.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS MUCH WORK

That in many instances the valuable properties of the Fire Department have been neglected to a considerable degree is the statement made in the report to the Commissioners of the committee appointed to examine that department, the investigators were John L. Weaver, Henry W. Reed, and S. Duncan Bradley. The entire department, it is said, suffers from neglect to provide the ordinary materials and supplies necessary to keep any property in good order.

"The plumbing in many instances is old and dilapidated," says the report. "The custodians of all buildings should be provided with paints, oils, brooms, etc., without which ordinary cleanliness is impossible. The men with practically no exception expressed a willingness to do this work, if materials and tools are provided."

Henry Storey, superintendent of repairs, to whom the report was referred, said that he fully agreed with the committee as to the condition of the plumbing in the several buildings, pointing out at the same time that more liberal appropriations for repairs are needed.

In reference to the report of the committee Building Inspector Ashford said that he believed careful inspection of the engine houses will show that the work was placed where it would do the most good without regard to the impressions that might be conveyed to the casual observer.

FOUNDER'S DAY BANQUET PLAN OF ALUMNI OF G. W. U.

Arrangements are being perfected by a committee of the Society of Alumni of Georgetown University for a banquet, January 25, to celebrate the birthday of the Rev. John Carroll, who founded the university in 1789. It will be the first time "founder's day" has ever been observed, although each year the association gives a mid-winter banquet. The day following the celebration of founder's day a reception will be held for the student body. George E. Hamilton is president and Harry R. Gower, secretary, of the alumni association.

NEWLANDS URGES WATERWAYS FUND

Senator Newlands of Nevada, recognized as the "father of the irrigation policy," advocated in the Senate today the creation of a permanent inland waterways commission. He urged that the Executive be given full control of the operations. "To put the President in a legislative straightjacket, would be sure to result in inefficiency and failure," he declared.

He favored the creation of an inland waterways fund of \$50,000,000 and would give to the President power to replenish it by the sale of bonds whenever it got below that amount.

Under the provision of the bill which he has introduced, he would give the commission power to supervise irrigation of arid lands, reclamation of swamp lands, conservation of forests, clarification of streams, and to utilize water power wherever it may be deemed advisable.

PETTIBONE TRIAL STRICTLY CONDUCTED

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 17.—The fact that Judge Wood will not admit testimony which had been received at the Haywood trial, and that he has asked the attorneys to submit their authorities on corroborative evidence is being taken to mean that the Pettibone trial will be tried strictly on its merits, without relation to the Haywood case.

It is believed also that the nature of the court's instructions to the jury which in the Haywood case was considered as favorable to the defense, may be changed to conform to the evidence now being admitted.

"We are not trying the Haywood case now," is the significant statement of Judge Wood in disposing of contested points.

PILLORIED DURING FIT, STRANGLED TO DEATH

YORK, Pa., Dec. 17.—Deized with an epileptic fit as he was mounting to the seat of a buggy in his stable here last night, John Heininger, about forty years old, fell in such a manner that his neck became wedged between seat and dashboard and he strangled to death. His body was found several hours later.

JUDGE KIMBALL STRICKEN IN COURT

Judge Ivory G. Kimball was taken so ill when on the bench in the Police Court this morning that his removal to his home was necessary. While his condition is not regarded as critical, it is said the Police Court Judge is extremely ill, and it will be some days before he will again be able to preside.

Several days ago Judge Kimball was stricken with the grip and remained away from court a day or two, but he insisted on returning to the court, where he has presided for eighteen years or more.

When Judge Kimball appeared today it was evident that he was very ill, and court officials endeavored to persuade him to return home, but he would not hear them. Shortly after court convened Judge Kimball began coughing violently and frequently halted the proceedings.

A few moments later he was compelled to leave the bench because of a severe coughing spell, but returned after a quarter of an hour. About 10:30 o'clock, when a jury trial was in progress Judge Kimball suddenly grew red in the face and clutched at his throat, as if great pressure was upon it. He jumped to his feet, but was compelled to steady himself by holding to his chair. He was escorted to his room and soon was sent home.

INDIAN TURPENTINE SENT TO BRITISH PAINTMAKERS

Samples of Indian turpentine, which the forest department of the United Provinces is now manufacturing at its factories at Dehra Dun, Nainital, and Nainital, have been sent to the Imperial Institute in London for chemical examination and exhibition in the Indian section, from which it is expected they will be brought by the authorities to the notice of those interested in the trade. A report on the samples sent is awaited in this country.

Samples have been sent to a large firm of varnish makers in England for trial.

LORD KELVIN DYING; ILL SEVERAL DAYS

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Lord Kelvin, the famous scientist, who has been ill several days, is so low his physicians say he can live but a few hours.

MRS. SELIGMAN DEAD; WIFE OF WALL STREET MAN

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Mrs. James Seligman, wife of the Wall Street banker, who has been ill in her apartment at the Hotel Savoy for more than a week, died this morning.

Her illness was caused by a slight cold which she contracted while out driving. It continued to grow worse, and developed into pneumonia.

AGED MAN FOUND DEAD; VICTIM OF ALCOHOLISM

Robert McPherson, seventy years old, of 13 G street northwest, died on the street last night, a victim of acute alcoholism. McPherson was taken to the Casualty Hospital from his home yesterday morning. Last night it was discovered that he had left the institution without the knowledge of any of the doctors.

McPherson was found lying on the pavement about two blocks from the hospital. The physicians say he had been a patient at the institution many times during the last few years.

JOSEPH RAKEMAN SELLS M STREET RESIDENCE

Prof. Joseph Rakeman has sold his property at 450 M street northwest, which will be used as a home by the purchaser, whose name is not given. The transaction was made through the real estate firm of Moore & Hill.

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